

DoD Support to Hurricane KATRINA

DoD Command and Control

- The Commander, US Northern Command, Admiral Tim Keating is in charge of the overall DoD response
 - Lieutenant General Russell Honoré commands Joint Task Force Katrina at Camp Shelby, MS – Task Force will relocate to Keesler Air Force Base, MS on Sept. 2
 - Two Senior Army officers are assigned to Homeland Security Under Secretary Michael Brown, to facilitate DoD support
 - Defense coordinating officers are stationed at FEMA National and Regional Headquarters and State Emergency Operations Centers
 - DoD is providing overhead imagery of disaster zone
- Three DoD installations are serving as FEMA staging areas for equipment and relief supplies: Maxwell Air Force Base, AL; Barksdale Air Force Base, LA; and Meridian Naval Air Station, MS
- Over 7,000 Active Duty DoD personnel in immediate area providing support
- 14,569 members of the National Guard have been assigned to relief operations – projected to be 27,099 by September 6
- 2 Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams are at the Superdome providing communications support
- Meals Ready to Eat – 750,000 cases (9 million individual meals) immediately available for distribution
 - 3 million cases (36 million individual meals) on-hand in the U.S.

Evacuation Support

- Airlifting 10,000 hurricane victims from New Orleans to Lackland Air Force Base / Kelly Field Annex, TX where some will be sheltered at Kelly
- Transported eight, 14-person, Swift Water Rescue Teams and their equipment from California to Louisiana to conduct Search and Rescue operations

Medical

- Setting up a 500 bed field hospital at New Orleans International Airport
- 10 Federal Medical Shelters (250 Beds each) established at DoD Installations: two-Eglin AFB, FL; four-Fort Polk, LA; two-Meridian Naval Air Station, MS; and two to Mississippi Air National Guard Base, Jackson, MS.
- DoD has airlifted 250 patients, (191 from the Superdome) out of the area

Naval Forces

- Aircraft carrier HARRY S. TRUMAN en route and will pick up helicopters near Jacksonville, FL. Scheduled to arrive on Saturday, 3 September
- Helicopter Carrier, BATAAN, is currently off New Orleans (6 helicopters and 1 Landing Craft) 60 hospital beds with nursing care; 300 beds with minimal care -- Moving to Vicinity of Gulfport Mississippi
- Helicopter Carrier IWO JIMA, and Support Ships TORTUGA, and SHREVEPORT scheduled to arrive Sunday, 4 September, with medical (includes 60 hospital beds with nursing care; 300 beds with minimal care) and humanitarian assistance supplies (fuel and relief supplies). Will pick up Marine Corps helicopters en route
- High-Speed Support Vessel SWIFT on station in Gulf of Mexico running resupply missions for BATAAN
- Logistics fast sealift ship, ALTAIR (fuel and relief supplies) docked at New Orleans as Forward Operating Base for Joint Task Force Katrina
- Logistics fast sealift ship, ARCTIC (fuel and relief supplies can carry the equivalent of more than six football fields of cargo) on station in Gulf of Mexico
- Salvage Ship GRAPPLE, with 31 Navy divers aboard is scheduled to arrive on Tuesday, 6 September
- Command Ship, WHIDBEY ISLAND, is sailing to the Gulf of Mexico
- Hospital Ship COMFORT (12 operating rooms and 1,000 beds) departs from Baltimore today. Scheduled to arrive in the area on 8 September. 250 personnel embarked, 250 additional embark en route
- 275 Navy Construction Engineers (Seabees) en route
- Naval forces will number over 7500 personnel

Aircraft

- 100+ Helicopters (40 National Guard, 60+ DoD) assisting with Search and Rescue, evacuee transportation, medical evacuation, and damage assessments and relief distribution
- Provided 30,000 gallons of aircraft fuel to support US Coast Guard helicopter rescues
- Four C-130 cargo aircraft and 1 C-17 on station to support patient evacuation